

CONNECTIONS

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FROM THE RABBI

The Jewish tradition teaches that Abraham’s and Sarah’s tent was open on all sides.

I think many of us are wondering, whether as a country, will we do more to open our tents on our many sides? Will we acknowledge the pain and history of discrimination and continued injustice of bigotry, and to support all those who are suffering? God bless all those who took a courageous stand in Charlottesville against White supremacist hate, against Nazis and against ongoing discrimination.

You might wonder what it could have felt like to be in Charlottesville on that fateful day, as an American, as a Jew. The following is an excerpt from a written statement of the Temple President of the only Reform community in Charlottesville.

“For half an hour, three men dressed in fatigues and armed with semi-automatic rifles stood across the street from the temple. Had they tried to enter, I don’t know what I could have done to stop them, but I couldn’t take my eyes off them, either. Perhaps the presence of our armed guard deterred them. Perhaps their presence was just a coincidence and I’m paranoid. I don’t know. Several times, parades of Nazis passed our building, shouting, “There’s the synagogue!” followed by chants of “Seig Heil” and other

anti-Semitic language. Some carried flags with swastikas and other Nazi symbols.”

The President continued in his remarks to express how both he, the rabbi and others were concerned over threats made to burn down the synagogue and the very safety of their community.

Like Charlottesville, we too are a small and historic community. Like Charlottesville, we are located far from a dense Jewish community. Like Charlottesville, we live in an area replete with opportunities that can be engulfed in divisiveness and charged symbolism.

Communities like ours are important. No matter our differences of opinion or practice, on one measure we should all stand united: Jewish communities such as ours are vital to the fabric of America. As Jews, we are called to hear one another, respect one another, and compromise to agree to disagree without becoming disagreeable.

Abraham went through many tests and we have continued to pass our test for 125 years in Hagerstown, Maryland. Like the Jews in Charlottesville, we must always stand tall to confront hate. This year, the Sons and Daughters of B’nai Abraham will also stand tall. We rise to both speak and hear one another, as differing perspectives are a source of strength. The Covenant of our people and our community depends on all of us.

—Rabbi Plost

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A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

On a regular basis one of my goals as President, and that of our leadership, is to assist in helping us work to hear one another. We are such a diverse community— with many different perspectives, tastes and needs. The synagogue life is an ongoing experiment, where we listen to the many voices and consider new approaches. It is also a place where

we come together, united by a shared sense of values, traditions and friendships. We know through experience that when people of diverse points of view work together, we strengthen ourselves and one another.

—Monda

HIGH HOLY DAYS

You have by now received your High Holy Day packets and I hope you have made your plans to join your fellow congregants during this most sacred season.

Honors are one way to add special meaning to your worship experience. There are many different kinds of honors we can offer. This year, you have been asked to let us know if you would like an honor and what type of honor you are most comfortable with. Honors available include speaking and non-speaking roles, Hebrew or English: Ark Openings & Closings, readings, Torah Aliyah, Torah dressing/undressing, haftorah and blessings chanting. There is still a little time to make your wishes known by contacting me

either by email, rachelbknichols@gmail.com or by phone, 240-308-1740.

On Yom Kippur, there is about a two-hour break after the morning service. Maybe there's been something about the holiday services or practices you've always wondered about—this will be your chance to "Ask the Rabbi!" We would prefer receiving questions in advance, so as the old saying goes, "Keep those cards and letters coming." The session will last approximately 45 minutes.

Wishing you a meaningful Holy Day season.

—Rachel Nichols
Religious Practices Committee Chair

A Special Thanks

I wish to personally THANK ALL THOSE that participated, placed ad's in our booklet, organized, set up the room, committee, plus chairperson, and attended my GALA AFFAIR on June 24.

Let me give each of you a BIG HUG AND SHAKE YOUR HAND! and Thank you. What you all have done is once in a LIFE time EVENT for me. You are the ones that need to be appreciated. GOD BLESS YOU ALL. THANK YOU!

—Ben Chlebnikow

MARK YOUR CALENDAR—UPCOMING EVENTS

SAT 9/16	7 PM	Selichot	FRI 9/22	6:15 PM	Tashlich: Potluck in the Park
SUN 9/17	11 AM	Religious School: New Year celebration at the Apple Orchard	FRI 9/29	8 PM	Kol Nidre
SUN 9/17	1 PM	Books and Bagels: Avishag by Yael Lotan	SAT 9/30	10:15 AM	Yom Kippur
WED 9/20	8 PM	Erev Rosh Hashanah	MON 10/2	6 PM	Women of CBA Dinner Party
THU 9/21	10:15 AM	Rosh Hashanah	FRI 10/6	6 PM	Sukkot
			SUN 11/5	5-8:30 PM	Annual Potter's Bowl

IN THE HOSPITAL?

Due to hospital policy, clergy and CBA volunteers have no way of knowing you are in the hospital unless you or a family member inform us.

CONTACT: Rabbi Plost, 301-733-5039 or ariplost@gmail.com.

MAKE A DONATION

Donations to the Congregation are a meaningful way to congratulate friends on Simchas or to show that you care in times of sorrow.

Contributions may be designated to any of our funds (see below). If a specific fund is not designated, the money will go into our General Fund.

For a minimum contribution of \$10.00 a printed card is sent. An individually hand-calligraphed card will be sent for any contribution of \$18.00 or more.

The minimum contribution to the Endowment Trust Fund is \$10.00. To make contributions to ANY FUND, please mail or call: Renee Kramer, 301-733-2093, 1102 Oak Hill Ave., Hagerstown, MD 21742.

General Fund, Endowment Fund, Cemetery Fund, Rabbi's Discretionary Fund, Young Adult Fund, Harold & Jeanne Jacobs Fund, Youth Group Fund, Sharon Wagshal Religious School Fund, 'Tree of Life', and the Adolph & Hannah Baer Trust Fund

CBA DIRECTORY

Rabbi Plost: 301-733-5039,
ariplost@gmail.com

Contributions: Renee Kramer,
301-733-2093,
terrace708@myactv.net

Dor L' Dor: Joan Becker, 301-791-7175

Tree of Life: Jerry Falke,
301-739-8456, falkeg@hotmail.com

Yahrzeit Plaques: Ben Chlebnikow,
301-791-6590, bchleb77@aol.com



BEAUTIFY THE BIMA

Honor loved ones by ordering flowers to adorn the sanctuary during the High Holy Days.

Opportunities are available for S'Lichot, Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur and Simchat Torah. \$60 per honor.

Place order by Sept. 8 with Trudie in the temple office at 301-733-5039 or bnaibraham1@gmail.com.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: AUGUST

PARK ACROSS THE STREET

We received the resolution from the City regarding the park on Aug. 25 at their regular meeting. They have been significantly supportive. We meet with Senator Serafini on Aug. 17. We have filed for and received 501c3 status. We have a small board of directors for the Thomas Kennedy Center and Tom Riford is our part-time executive director and fundraiser.

MEMBERSHIP

We have had four people inquire about membership since our last meeting.

HIGH HOLY DAYS

The High Holy Day packets have been mailed. If you did not receive one, please contact Monda Sagalkin.

DIRECTORY

The 5778 Directory has been printed. Copies will be available at High Holy Day Services.

VOLUNTEER CHAIR NEEDED

We still need a chair for the Houses of Worship Tour in December.

Thanks for all your help,
Monda



CHILDREN'S BOOKS WANTED 6TH ANNUAL COMMUNITY BOOK DRIVE AUGUST 15—SEPTEMBER 20

We are collecting books this year for the annual Community Book Drive! Our collection begins September 1 and books can be dropped off at the Temple. Please bring in new or gently used books, specifically for children between the ages of newborn through 11 years old.

Why your books matter:

- Providing books to children is a simple, effective and inexpensive way to promote language and literacy growth.
- Research shows that reading aloud to kids is THE single most important act that you can do to help a child prepare for learning and reading.
- The number of words that a child knows upon entering Kindergarten is a key predictor of his/her future success.

The Community Book Drive is a partnership of Hagerstown Area Religious Council, Rotary Clubs of Hagerstown, United Way of Washington County, FedEx and Washington County Early Childhood Advisory Council. Books are distributed to local organizations and schools for use in literacy programs and for at-risk children to take home. More than 58,000 books have been distributed in the last 5 years through this effort. The goal for this year is 15,000 children's books.

Thank you for our help with this community project!

FROM THE RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

Greetings from the Religious School teachers and administration! We hope all our families have had a restful couple of months and also extend our condolences to the Levin/Kinne family on the loss of their beloved grandmother. May her memory be for a blessing. We also wish Ethan Betke a refuah shleimah (a speedy and complete recovery) from his leg injury. Surely he is enjoying the collection of autographs on his cast but, God willing, not for very long!

Folks must have been pretty busy these past months since we could not find a date for shabbat at Rabbi Plost's home that satisfied the schedules of most families. Therefore, we have re-scheduled for the fall...after lazy, hazy days spent at the beach.

Looking forward, our opening family activity event will take place on Sunday, September 17, at Rock Hill Orchard, located at 28600 Ridge Road, Mt Airy, MD 21771, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Wear comfortable, dirt-proof clothes as we shall be picking apples, riding in a hay wagon and celebrating the arrival of Rosh HaShanah (Hebrew year 5778) with some messy activities as well as learning about the upcoming High Holiday season.

If you know of a Jewish family interested in our educational program, please have them contact Barbara Schwab at Barb-Maimo@yahoo.com or 254-291-2957. No matter the children's ages or levels of experience, we will work with each one individually on Hebrew instruction and competence in Jewish prayer.

We are excited to welcome returning students and also some new families who have discovered us during the summer. Look for a detailed calendar of events for the upcoming year in your email.

See you at Rock Hill Orchard!

Pet Emergency Kit

If you have a pet, it is necessary for you to have an emergency plan for them. Make sure you have an identification collar and rabies tag a carrier or cage and leash, newspaper and plastic trash bags for handling waste and any medications, and at least a two-week supply of food and water and food bowls, along with veterinary records. Remember pets outside of service animals may not be permitted in a shelter. Make plans where you will board your pet in any emergency if necessary. There are only a few places in Washington County that will allow pets in shelters.

For more information, contact Julie Ferron at 301-791-4871.



Full Bloom

With summer winding down, we'd like to take a moment to recognize and thank Leah Neveil, our master gardener, for her continued efforts and hardwork on making the CBA garden a thriving, beautified space that we all can appreciate and enjoy.



Thank you Tom, Leah's husband, for capturing the garden in peak bloom and sharing it with the rest of us.

Welcome to the New Year at CBA!

Women of Congregation B'nai Abraham
Dinner Party

Hosted by the Membership Committee
on Oct.2 at 6 p.m.

The party will be at Carol Metzner's home:
10130 Harmony Rd., Meyersville, MD 21773,
240-357-0033

An Evite with specific details will be sent
soon, so watch your email.

TREES IN ISRAEL

Planting a tree in Israel is the perfect way to show you care. Trees can be planted for all occasions. They help green the land of Israel while sending a special gift to a friend or loved one. For each order, a beautiful certificate of your choice is mailed to the recipient with your personal message.

Plant trees for all of these occasions: birth, Bar or Bat mitzvah, graduation, wedding, birthday, get-well wish or in memory of someone special. Over the past 100 years, JNF has planted over 250 million trees in the land of Israel.

The cost per tree is \$18 with the check made out to Congregation B'nai Abraham. We have an EZTree account at JNF and Carrol will place the order for your tree(s). For more information or to place an order, please email or call: Carrol Lourie, 240-818-7555, cglourie@gmail.com.

GIFT PLANNING

Learn how you can plan a self-sustaining gift to CBA. CONTACT: Monda Sagalkin, 240-291-6983, monda.sagalkin@gmail.com.

CARING COMMITTEE

The Caring Committee provides care, companionship and assistance to members of our congregation and their immediate families in need due to ill health, age or non-financial crisis or catastrophe.

Receives initial call from the rabbi:
Sharon Metzner, 301-739-2972,
sharonmetz@aol.com

For meals, as needed:
Robbie Greenberg, 301-797-7265,
robbieg56@gmail.com

For transportation needs: Barby Weiss, 301-791-6098,
barby@myactv.net

For home visits or outings:
Sharon Wagshal, 301-797-3220,
sharonwag@aol.com

YAHRZEITS

SEPT 1

Sidney Metzner*
Norma Garfein

SEPT 2

Mary Cooper*
Bessie Greenberg
Therese Koerner

SEPT 3

Albert Klein*

SEPT 4

Jean Torbert

SEPT 5

Louis Okun
Louis Horovitz

SEPT 6

Beatrice Atlas
Richard S. Scharf*
Benjamin Goldenberg
Edward Joseph Meyer
David Rosenbloom

SEPT 7

Sheldon Kiselik

SEPT 8

Arthur Stein

SEPT 9

Margaret Lyons*

Harvey Feld
William Rees

SEPT 10

Barbara Chaplin
Benjamin Miller
Lena Sackin
Selma Knecht

SEPT 12

Edith Brandt

SEPT 13

Herman Weiss*

SEPT 15

Charles Chatkin*
Alan Salod

SEPT 16

Linscott A. Hall
Howard Keats
Albert Messer

SEPT 17

Sarah Cohen*
Rudi Kramer
Warren Lieberman
Bessie Yoselowitz

SEPT 20

Alfred Chatkin
Beatrice Jacobs
Lucienne Klarsfeld
Morris Gordon

SEPT 22

Morris Pashen*
Arthur Katz

SEPT 23

Mary Levin*

SEPT 24

Jacob A. Kline*
Albert Yudkovitz

SEPT 25

Leo Chatkin*

SEPT 26

Herbert Seigel*
Gladys Adams

SEPT 27

Eugene Hershkovitz

SEPT 28

William Sagel*
Samuel Levin

SEPT 29

Anna Chlebnikow*

SEPT 30

Morris Werner*
Alvin Sadow

* Denotes Yahrzeit Plaque
in Sanctuary

Donations to the Endowment Fund:

In memory of Leo Chlebnikow from Monda and Sandy Sagalkin

SEPTEMBER ONEG SCHEDULE

FRI 9/8 Tom & Leah Neveil, Chair; Ed & Hannah Baer
FRI 9/15 Doug & Joan Becker, Chair;
Dick & Bridgie Greenwald
SAT 9/16 Lew & Sharon Metzner, Chairs;
Scott & Randi Numbers, Margie Roames
WED 9/20 CBA Trustees



Congregation B'nai Abraham

בני אברהם

49 E. Baltimore St.
Hagerstown, MD 21740

bnaiaabraham.net

CONGREGATION B'NAI ABRAHAM OFFICERS

Monda Sagalkin
President

Ben Chlebnikow
First Vice President

Arthur Wineburg
Second Vice President

Leon Seidman
Treasurer

Buck Macht
Secretary

Rachel Nichols
Immediate Past President

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ADULT EDUCATION

Buck Macht

BUDGET AND FINANCE

Leon Seidman

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Mike Armel
Ben Chlebnikow

CARING

Sharon Metzner

CEMETERY

Jerry Falke

CHOIR AND MUSIC

Rachel Nichols

CONSTITUTION

Sybil Schiffman

ENDOWMENT

Dan Schiffman

KITCHEN

Nyna Lachman

LIFELONG LEARNING

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Kendra Tidd

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Margie Roames

ONEGS

Sharon Wagshal
Randi Numbers

PROGRAMS

Carole Lafferman
Buck Macht

PULPIT

—

RELIGIOUS PRACTICES

Rachel Nichols

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

Barbara Schwab

SECURITY

Julie Ferron

TIKKUN OLAM

Carole Lafferman

UJA (ISRAELI BONDS)

Sharon Wagshal

WAYS AND MEANS

Leon Seidman

Upcoming Interfaith Events

The Interfaith Coalition will be holding its 2nd Annual Global Feast for Peace for September 17, 2017 from 5 p.m.–7 p.m. at St. Mark's Episcopal Church in their Parish Hall, 18313 Lappans Rd., Boonsboro Md. Suggested contribution is \$10. **For more information, contact Julie Ferron at 301-791-4871.**